

**BLOFIELD & FLEGG  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
of the  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**  
including the report of the Senior Public Health Inspector  
for the  
**YEAR 1968**





# MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

## 1968

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*Vice-Chairman* - Councillor Dr. C. FLETCHER

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## PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT 1968

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### *Medical Officer of Health:*

DR. G. R. HOLTBY, M.D., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.I.H.

### *Senior Public Health Inspector:*

A. G. LAKE, A.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

### *Deputy Senior Public Health Inspector:*

H. R. C. STRANGE, M.A.P.H.I.

### *Additional Inspectors:*

G. H. ALLISON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.  
B. D. WILDMAN, M.A.P.H.I.

### *Senior Clerk:*

Mr. B. A. J. MUNRO, A.M.R.S.H.

### *Junior Clerk:*

Miss M. E. BLAKE  
(to 6th December)

Miss D. E. TURNER  
(from 9th December)



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To: The Chairman and Members of the  
Blofield and Flegg Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1968. The Registrar General estimates the mid-year population as 42,130 compared with 41,130 last year. There were 667 live births and 617 deaths giving a natural increase of 50. There was thus a movement into the district of ~~1,050~~ <sup>950</sup> people.

The birth rate was 19.59 per thousand population and the death rate 10.5. There were 667 live births of which 4.64% were illegitimate. There were nine deaths under the age of four weeks and a total of twelve under one year. The infant mortality rate of 18.0 per thousand live births was the same as the figure for England and Wales.

It is a pleasure to record that once again there were no maternal deaths associated with child birth.

A recent Office of Health Economics Publication as reported in the "Medical News" emphasises that the over forty-fives have not benefited from medical progress to anything like the same extent as younger age groups. The spectacular reductions in deaths from T.B. and infectious diseases have, particularly for men, been offset by increases in lung cancer and heart disease.

The age group 45 - 64 stand condemned, in many cases, of over-eating and smoking and of suffering from stress and lack of exercise. These are factors in coronary disease, and smoking also pushes up the lung cancer and bronchitis statistics.

The publication underlines the conclusion that if young people could be persuaded to abandon cigarette smoking there would eventually be a dramatic change in the patterns of illness of the middle aged.

The present trend of middle age illness and mortality is costing the country well over £1,000,000,000 a year and the biggest advance against this trend would be to tackle the question of smoking. "Cigarettes cause not less than seven times as many deaths every year as do traffic accidents. The abolition of cigarette smoking would be the greatest single contribution to the improvement of the public health still open to us" - Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health.

Few people realise that approximately ten working days are lost due to sickness and disability for every one lost by industrial disputes. A study in the U.S.A. has shown that cigarette smokers over all suffer one-fifth more days of absence for sickness each year than do non-smokers.

Smokers, in fact, are less fit for work and for leisure activities than non-smokers.

A Survey in this country published in 1968 has shown that parents who smoke are far more likely to have children who smoke than are non-smoking parents. Similarly if parents are strongly against smoking children are more likely to be non-smokers or to give up the habit if they start.

The safety of cigarette filters is unproven and the newer longer cigarette may be especially hazardous by increasing the smoker's exposure to harmful substances. The only sound advice is not to start smoking or to give it up, or, if one cannot give it up, to change to a pipe or cigars, as these are less dangerous.

As the Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry of Health has said - "The abolition of cigarette smoking would reduce Britain's death rate by one-tenth and the working time lost from sickness by much more. No other exercise in preventive medicine could do so much to help individuals and the Nation."

Obesity in children, as in adults, continues to be a problem. It is not desirable to make babies too fat and in some cases it may be that they are getting too much "solid" food too early. One local Consultant Paediatrician does not advocate mixed feeding until  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 months of age.

As has been recently reported in the Lancet during last winter, the usual bi-annual measles epidemic was expected in Britain. The fact that measles notifications reached only a fifth of the normal epidemic level was almost certainly attributable to the vaccination campaign begun in the summer of 1968.

Members of the Health Department live a pretty busy life and most of their activities are, or should be, a form of health education, mainly by personal discussion. In the future, however, we shall probably have to spend more time addressing groups of people, and particularly in schools, on such subjects as the dangers of smoking, the prevention of obesity, food hygiene and sex education, etc.



In the last paragraph of the introduction to the Annual Report it is usual to thank the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their interest and the staff of the Department for their work. In this case these expressions are not mere formalities as the elected members have continued their helpful interest and the staff their enthusiastic support throughout the year.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. R. HOLTBY,

Medical Officer of Health.





## SECTION A

### NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area - (in acres) 74,531. There are 33 parishes within the area which has its administrative centre at Acle. The major portion of the District is rural in character, Agriculture and Dairy Farming being the main industry. The District is a very popular summer resort catering for many thousands of visitors during the holiday season, the numbers increasing each year; it includes a large area of the Broads and many miles of pleasant inland waterways. Some of the best beaches in the country are to be found on its eight miles of coastline which extends from the boundary of Great Yarmouth northwards to Horsey.

Population - The Registrar General has estimated the population for the mid-year 1968 as 42,130 giving a population density of approximately .56 per acre.

### SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	74,531
Population (Registrar-General mid-June estimate)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42,130
No. of Inhabited Houses (1968) according to Ratebook	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,527
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£1,242,371
Estimated Net Produce of 1d. Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£5,150

LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	326	310	636
Illegitimate	18	13	31
Total	<u>344</u>	<u>323</u>	<u>667</u>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population -

Elofield and Flogg R.D.	Crude Birth Rate	15.8
	Standard Birth Rate	19.59
England and Wales	Standard Birth Rate	16.9

STILL BIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	2	4	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births -

Elofield and Flogg R.D.	9.0
England and Wales	14.0
Total live and still births	673

INFANT MORTALITY (Death of infants under one year)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	8	2	10
Illegitimate	2	-	2
Total	<u>10</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>12</u>

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births -

Elofield and Flogg R.D.	18.0
England and Wales	18.0

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births -

Elofield and Flogg R.D.	Legitimate	15.65
	Illegitimate	64.51

# Infant Mortality - Neo Natal (first four weeks)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	5	2	7
Illegitimate	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>
Total	<u>7</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>9</u>

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) ... 13.49

Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) ... 13.49

Peri-natal mortality rate (still births and deaths of infants under one week of age) ... 22.0

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births 4.64

## MATERNAL MORTALITY

Deaths associated with pregnancy, childbirth or abortion ... None

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births ... Nil

Deaths (all causes)	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	287	330	617

Death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population - Blofield and Flegg R.D. Crude Death Rate 14.6

Standard Death Rate 10.5

England and Wales Standard Death Rate 11.9

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births Nil

# BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE AND INFANT MORTALITY RATE

	England and Wales	Hlofield & Flegg R.D. (Standard Rates)
	<u>Rates per 1,000 Population</u>	
<u>Births:</u>		
Live Births	16.9	19.59
Still Births	14.3	9.00
<u>Deaths:</u>		
All causes (excluding Still Births)	11.9	10.5
<u>Infant Mortality:</u>		
All causes under 1 year	18.3	18.0
Perinatal mortality	24.7	22.0
Neo-Natal mortality rate	12.8	13.49

## Deaths from Cancer and Total Deaths

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
No. of deaths from Cancer	92	76	86	68	89	96
No. of deaths all causes	633	519	599	556	557	617
% of total deaths due to Cancer	14.5	12.7	14.4	12.2	16.0	15.6

## Cancer Deaths during last 6 years

Male				Female		
Year	Total Deaths	Lung Cancer	Other Cancers	Total Deaths	Lung Cancer	Other Cancers
1968	287	24	33	330	2	37
1967	269	17	27	288	4	41
1966	255	19	20	301	-	29
1965	300	18	33	299	2	33
1964	235	11	33	284	3	29
1963	287	8	27	346	-	57

## Deaths from Coronary Disease

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
No. of deaths from Coronary disease	93	73	112	76	87	169
No. of deaths all causes	633	519	599	556	557	617
% of total deaths due to Coronary disease	14.7	14.1	18.7	13.6	15.6	25.8

## Deaths from Coronary disease during last 6 years

Male			Female	
Year	Total Deaths	Coronary-Angina	Total Deaths	Coronary-Angina
1968	287	79	330	90
1967	269	46	288	41
1966	255	40	301	36
1965	300	75	299	37
1964	235	44	284	29
1963	287	56	346	37



# INDIVIDUAL CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
B4 Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	-	1	1
B5 Tuberculosis of Respiratory system	1	-	1
B18 Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-	1
B19(1) Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	8	4	12
B19(2) Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	24	2	26
B19(3) Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	-	10	10
B19(4) Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	-	6	6
B19(5) Leukaemia	1	1	2
B19(6) Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	24	16	40
B20 Benign and unspecified Neoplasms	1	1	2
B21 Diabetes Mellitus	-	4	4
B23 Anaemias	1	2	3
B46(3) Mental Disorders	-	3	3
B46(4) Other diseases of nervous system, etc.	1	3	4
B26 Chronic Rheumatic heart disease	-	1	1
B27 Hypertensive disease	4	10	14
B28 Ischaemic heart disease	79	90	169
B29 Other forms of heart disease	31	22	53
B30 Cerebrovascular disease	27	46	73
B46(5) Other diseases of circulatory system	10	21	31
B31 Influenza	6	9	15
B32 Pneumonia	16	36	52
B33(1) Bronchitis and Emphysema	12	13	25
B33(2) Asthma	-	4	4
B46(6) Other diseases of respiratory system	2	4	6
B34 Peptic Ulcer	-	1	1
B36 Intestinal obstruction and Hernia	3	2	5
B46(7) Other diseases of digestive system	1	1	2
B38 Nephritis and Nephrosis	3	-	3
B39 Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	-	3
B46(8) Other diseases Genito-Urinary system	4	2	6
B46(9) Diseases of skin, Subcutaneous tissue	-	1	1
B46(10) Diseases of Musculo-skeletal system	1	-	1
B42 Congenital Anomalies	5	1	6
B43 Birth Injury, difficult labour etc.	4	-	4
B44 Other causes of perinatal mortality	2	1	3
B45 Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	2	2	4
BE47 Motor vehicle accidents	5	1	6
BE48 All other accidents	3	7	10
BE49 Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	2	2	4
All causes	287	330	617

NOTIFICATIONS OF DEATHS RECEIVED DURING YEAR 1968  
ACCORDING TO AGE GROUPS

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Under 4 weeks	7	2	9
4 weeks and under 1 year	3		3
1 - 4	1	2	3
5 - 14	2	-	2
15 - 24	3	2	5
25 - 34	3	2	5
35 - 44	8	4	12
45 - 54	15	7	22
55 - 64	54	43	97
65 - 74	73	62	135
75 and over	118	206	324
	287	330	617

INFANT MORTALITY (Under One year)

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Prematurity	1	1	2
Extreme prematurity	1	-	1
Heart failure and pneumonia			
Congenital heart disease	1	-	1
Acute viraemia	1	-	1
Anoxia. Respiratory distress syndrome. Cerebral haemorrhage			
Prematurity.	1	-	1
Cerebral anoxia	1	-	1
Respiratory distress syndrome			
Prematurity.	2	-	2
Encephally. Spina bifida.	1	-	1
Oesophageal atresia. Dohns syndrome	1	-	1
Complete transposition of aorta and pulmonary artery	-	1	1
	10	2	12

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT FOR 1968 AND  
PREVIOUS YEARS COMPARATIVE TABLE WITH ENGLAND AND WALES FOR THE  
PAST FIVE YEARS

	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
<u>Live Birth Rate (standardised)</u> <u>per 1,000 population</u>					
England and Wales	18.4	18.00	17.7	17.2	16.9
Blofield and Flegg R.D.	15.91	16.78	17.89	17.47	18.00
<u>Still Birth Rate 1,000 total</u> <u>(live and still) births</u>					
England and Wales	16.3	15.70	15.4	14.8	14.3
Blofield and Flegg R.D.	18.73	15.51	6.27	9.65	9.0
<u>Death Rate (standardised)</u> <u>per 1,000 population</u>					
England and Wales	11.3	11.50	11.7	11.2	11.9
Blofield and Flegg R.D.	9.58	9.99	8.88	9.45	10.5
<u>Infant Mortality Rate per</u> <u>1,000 Live Births</u>					
England and Wales	20.0	19.00	19.0	18.3	18.3
Blofield and Flegg R.D.	15.72	15.76	12.64	14.56	13.49



## SECTION 'B'

### GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES

Blofield and Flegg Rural District is included with Smallburgh Rural District and North Walsham Urban District to form No. 1 Area of the Norfolk County Council, for the purposes of carrying out the duties for which the County Health Authority has accepted responsibility under the National Health Service Act. These include the Care of Mothers and Young Children, Midwifery Service, Home Nursing Service, Vaccination and Immunisation, Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care, Domestic Help Services and Mental Health Service. Some of these services along with the School Health Service in the area are the responsibility of the Area Medical Officer who also acts as Medical Officer of Health of the three County Districts comprising Area No. 1., referred to above (Tel. Norwich 28801). There are six Health Visitors and eight District Nurses with centres at the following places:-

Acle	Unionist Hall	Second Thursday each month.
Blofield	Margaret Harker Hall	Last Thursday each month.
Blofield Corner	Village Hall	Second Thursday each month.
Brundall	Memorial Hall	Last Thursday each month.
Caister	Parish Hall	Second and last Wednesday each month. (Doctor attends last Wednesday).
Cantley	Village Hall	Third Tuesday each month.
Gt. Plumstead	Village Hall	Third Wednesday each month.
Halvergate	Church Room	Second Friday each month.
Hemsby	The Institute	Third Thursday each month.
Lingwood	Recreation Hall	Third Thursday each month.
Martham	Church Room	Second Thursday each month.
Ormesby	Church Hall	Second Friday each month.
Roodham	Church Hall	First Thursday each month.
Thorpe (1)	Roxley	Last Thursday each month.
Thorpe (2)	Shakespeare Memorial Baptist Church Hall Witard Road.	Every Tuesday (Doctor attends third and last Tuesday)

Doctor attends all Clinics where there is an attendance of 25 or over.

#### Other Treatment Centres

Treatment Centres are held weekly as follows:-

	<u>Acle</u> <u>V.P.</u> <u>School</u>	<u>Caister</u> <u>Soc. Mod.</u> <u>School</u>	<u>Norwich</u> <u>Aspland</u> <u>Road</u>	<u>Thorpe Hillside</u> <u>Avenue C.P.</u> <u>School</u>
Child Guidance Clinics	-	-	1*	-
Dental Clinics	4	-	1	4
Speech Clinics	1	1	3	-

\* Plus two sessions monthly for emuretics.

## General Welfare Services

With the departure of Mr. E.G. Hubbard from the Area on the 1st December, 1968, Welfare Services administered by the Welfare Officers became centred for the whole of Area No. 1 on the Local Health Office, Aspland Road, Norwich. Mr. C.J. Gallant is the Area Welfare Officer and has a team of three Social Welfare Officers to assist him. The contact point at Caister for the use of the public in that area has been maintained throughout the year.

The Welfare Officers deal with the admission of aged persons to County Homes for the Elderly, either on a short term or a long term basis and besides dealing with admissions to Mental Hospitals they are responsible for the care of the mentally sub-normal living in the community and also of patients discharged from or on leave from mental hospitals.

Welfare Officers maintain close co-operation with the Public Health and Housing Departments of the Council and as a result are able to assist with help and advice and general welfare services where these are required.

### Home Help Service

The Home Help Service is administered from the Area Local Health Office, at Aspland Road, Norwich, and all applications addressed to the Area Welfare Officer at that office. The work of the Home Helps is now controlled by one of the County Council's lady Home Helps Organisers and this service continues to expand.

### Old People's Clubs

Old People's Clubs continue to function in almost all the parishes in the district and provide outings which take a great deal of loneliness and monotony out of old age.

### Meals on Wheels Service

This service continues to function in numerous parishes in the district. The W.R.V.S. provide a service at Acle, Upton, Brundall, Blofield, Burlingham, Lingwood, Strumpshaw, Thorpe St. Andrew, Great and Little Plumstead, and at Caister-on-Sea meals are provided by Toc H.

### Ambulance Service

The County Ambulance Service is operated by the County Council through the agency of the Norfolk St. John Ambulance Brigade and British Red Cross Society Joint Ambulance Committee.

### Vaccination and Immunisation

This service is also the responsibility of the County Health Authority and is carried out by General Practitioners and by Assistant County Medical Officers.

### Laboratory Facilities

Facilities for Laboratory investigation are to be had at the the Public Health Laboratory, Bowthorpe Road, Norwich.

### National Assistance (1948) Act, Section 47.

There were no cases where action had to be taken.

SECTION 'C'

WATER SUPPLY

Main Supplies

The demand for water from the Strumpshaw Headworks increased with the growth in population and a total of 116.36 million gallons was supplied during 1968. Periodic bacteriological and chemical analyses were taken throughout the year, all of which proved satisfactory.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>No. of Dwellings connected</u>	<u>Population Supplied</u>
Acle	477	1242
Ashby-with-Oby	7	18
Bighton	111	334
Blofield	692	1738
Brundall	734	2015
Burlingham	412	1282
Cantley	225	632
Froethorpe	170	485
Halvergate	121	332
Hemblington	81	210
Martham	493	1398
Rodham	301	866
Repps	134	314
South Walsham	210	614
Strumpshaw	154	481
Thurne	41	103
Upton	168	438
Woodbastwick	44	153

39 Holiday Chalets connected Martham Riverside ) Not included in  
52 Holiday Chalets connected Repps Riverside ) above figures

Analyses of Water from Headworks

Chemical analyses of both the raw water and the water after passing through the iron removal plant were taken and these showed the organic quality of the water to be good and the iron removal plant to be operating satisfactorily. The water is not expected to have any plumbo-solvent action, its reaction being on the alkaline side of neutrality.

The water is known to have a fluoride content of 0.45 parts per million.



## Water Supply (cont'd)

On one or two occasions due to repair work and/or the cleansing of the reservoir, complaints were received concerning the condition of the water. In each case the position was quickly rectified and a satisfactory supply restored.

## Private Supplies

It would be wrong to omit mentioning once again the need to abolish the use of shallow wells. As stated in previous reports, contamination of the surface is continually taking place by chemical and other fertilisers, in addition to the disposal into the sub-soil of sewage from cesspool and septic tank installations, all of which affect the quality of water in a shallow well.

## Sewerage

Apart from a few isolated cases, properties within the Parishes of Brundall and Elofield have been connected to the sewer and consequently the request for the use of the cesspool emptiers in those Parishes has been reduced to a negligible figure.

The Coastal Parishes Sewerage Scheme came into use during 1968 and many property owners lost no time in making the necessary arrangements to make a connection to the sewer. In spite of this however, there are many who for various reasons have not to date availed themselves of the facility provided. The staff of the Health Department are aware of this and every opportunity is taken to bring this factor to the notice of those concerned but a more positive approach of the Council is necessary.

The Sewerage Scheme for the Parish of Martham was commenced during the year and good progress was made. It will be in use during the latter half of 1969, and will be a big step forward insofar as Martham is concerned, and as mentioned in a previous report will be a great relief to residents who have for many years had difficulty in connection with the disposal of waste water and have had to tolerate nuisances which have arisen as a result.

It is to be recorded that for various reasons it has not to date been possible to commence work on the Sewerage Scheme for the Parish of Acle. This is a Parish with a population of approximately 1,400 persons and apart from small groups of properties which are served by independent sewage plants, properties drain to cesspools and similar tanks or are connected to the Parish Drain. This is a very unsatisfactory position and one which the Council is anxious to improve at the earliest opportunity.

Filby, Floggburgh, Lingwood and Roodham are Parishes where a main drainage scheme is a "must" in the not too distant future.

Wet Refuse

The collection from pail closets was made once weekly throughout the year. The problem of disposal however remains as difficult as ever. The Council is fortunate to own a pit situated well away from dwellings which is used for the reception of this material. From time to time a dragline is used to remove the contents of the pit which is then used as a manure on a nearby field. During the year 1,141 loads were removed by the five men employed in connection with this service. Two vehicles were in use full time and one part time. It is expected two vehicles only will be required during 1969.

Dry Refuse

During 1968 a regular once weekly collection of dry refuse was made from all properties capable of approach by a made-up roadway. In common with all other authorities there was a further increase in the bulk of refuse collected. When recording items connected with refuse collection it is usual to refer to refuse by weight but this does not convey the true picture. The nature of the refuse continues to change and over the years it has become less dense but much more bulky calling for larger capacity collection vehicles fitted with some type of compaction device.

At the end of the year the Council took delivery of such a vehicle. This is in use in the Brundall/Strumpshaw/Burlingham area and has already proved a great assistance to the men engaged in this area and has made it possible to keep to schedule.

Thirty men were employed throughout the year and twelve vehicles were in use for the dry refuse service. A total of 14,800 tons was collected and disposed of. The incinerator at Thorpe, although obsolete in design, continues to give good service and deals effectively with the refuse from approximately 8,000, i.e. approximately two thirds of the total residents of Thorpe. Although the method of disposing refuse through an incinerator is more costly it is undoubtedly a far more hygienic method and it is difficult to understand why it is not in use to a greater extent. Refuse from the other Parishes within the District was tipped at the three tips in use for this purpose. These are situated at Acle, Martham and Caistor. A hitherto useless pit at Rollesby was filled in and this has provided a very useful piece of land. At Acle and Caistor the tips were maintained in a very satisfactory condition but I regret to report again that this was not so in the case of Martham. The Council has agreed to the purchase of an additional tractor-shovel and when this becomes available it will be possible to maintain this tip as required.

Negotiations have been in progress for the use of a small portion of a worked-out gravel pit at Strumpshaw as a controlled tip. It is confidently expected that this will be available during 1969.



### Dry Refuse (cont'd)

The collection of litter from lay-bys was carried out very frequently but as in previous years the careless habits of some of the travelling public gave rise to conditions of lay-bys within the District which were, to say the least, extremely unsightly. Strict attention was given to the collection of refuse from the banks of rivers and broads; collections were as frequent as could be arranged and apart from one or two minor instances the season went smoothly. At the end of the season it became necessary to tour the banks to detect any unknown dumps and these were cleared wherever possible by burning on the spot or removal for disposal.

During the year very little progress was made by the interested authorities relative to the various aspects of the pollution of the rivers and broads. To date it has not been possible for financial reasons to deal with the unsightly appearance of the beaches and their approaches brought about by the deposit of litter by holiday makers.

### Cesspools

The demand for the service continued unabated throughout the year. Housing development within the area continues at a rapid rate, much of which is within unseweraged Parishes where drainage is to cesspools and similar installations. The sub-soil in large sections of the District is clay and in other locations low-lying water-logged land, giving rise to considerable drainage problems, the removal of sewage by tanker being the only method of maintaining effective drainage from the dwellings concerned. During the year three 1,000 gallon and three 1,500 gallon tankers were in use and 10,496,000 gallons were removed. This was a smaller quantity than in 1967, and is accounted for by the introduction of the Coastal Parishes Scheme, and there being no further demand for the service from caravan sites. It has been pointed out in previous reports that collection of cesspool contents is a considerable undertaking, but disposal of the sewage is even more difficult. The disposal pit at Buckenham, after approximately 20 years of use, was completely filled during the year and it was necessary to excavate nearby to provide at least a temporary point for the reception of sewage. This continues in use but will be for a limited period only. The absence of sewers and sewage disposal works in the built-up areas cannot continue without the risk of a public outcry arising from overflowing cesspools and the need for the frequent use of the cesspool emptying service.

### Public Conveniences

During 1968 the obsolete block of conveniences at Scratby was replaced by a new building and these new premises will be available for public use during the 1969 season. The conveniences at Acle, Ranworth, Thorpe, Thurno, Martham, California, Ormesby (2), Caister (2) and Winterton were used to the full during 1968. I must

## Public Conveniences (cont'd)

once again refer to the obsolete condition of those at Homsby and Caister Beaches. As in previous years there was wilful damage to fittings etc., at Acle, Homsby and Thorpe but fortunately this was not of a serious nature.

Due to economic restrictions it may not be possible at present to provide conveniences at such places as Reedham, Stokesby, Acle Bridge and Brundall, but nevertheless there is a very definite need as holiday makers and day trippers are present in these locations in ever increasing numbers during the summer months.

## Moveable Dwellings

As in previous years a few complaints were received from holiday makers but these were principally due to the very wet season which caused sites to become water-logged. Sections of roadways were flooded and similar problems arose all of which were associated with accommodating large numbers of persons in temporary accommodation. The availability of a sewer reduced the drainage problems which have existed for many years but it had not been possible in the available time for all site operators to make the necessary connections. These will be remedied in time for the 1969 season. The touring caravan problems remain as in previous years. For short periods caravans were parked on lay-bys, roadside verges and unlicensed land. These included a number of gypsy-type families and this is a well known national problem. During early August a count of caravans was taken when it was found that there were 4,834 caravans in the district, an estimated population of 14,500.

## Tent Sites

There was little change in the pattern from that of 1967. July, August and early September was the period during which many hundreds of tents and similar accommodation was in use principally as in previous years at Caister-on-Sea and Fleggburgh. Although better sanitary facilities were provided at one site at Caister-on-Sea the very wet season made conditions very unsatisfactory and a number of complaints were received. These were, as in the case of caravan sites, due to the abnormal weather conditions.

## Swimming Pools

Excluding swimming pools situated at schools controlled by the Norfolk Education Committee, there were 9 pools in use within the district during the summer months. These are situated at holiday camps, caravan sites, hotels and private schools. 32 samples were taken from these pools during the season, 8 of which were reported as being unsatisfactory after examination at the Public Health Laboratory. . The owners were very co-operative and in every case the position was rectified quickly.



## Prevention of Damage by Pests Act

The Council's two rodent operators were busy throughout 1968 surveying and dealing with infestations at dwellings and other premises within the district. 9,625 visits were made during the year, 8,285 of them to dwelling houses. There were no reports of major infestation and there is every indication that the degree of infestation within the district is kept to a minimum.

## Meat Inspection

During 1968 the one slaughterhouse in the district continued to operate without complaint. There was an increase in the amount of slaughtering of approximately 35% over the figures for 1967 and this absorbed a considerable amount of the Inspectors' time. In addition there was, particularly in the summer months, a large amount of meat inspection carried out outside normal working hours. Further alterations and additions have been effected at the premises and it is anticipated that there will be a further increase in the amount of slaughtering during 1969. Figures given under Section E of this report give details of the inspections, condemnations etc. 100% inspection was achieved with difficulty throughout the year and the quality of the meat can correctly be described as very good.

## Milk

There were 74 registered distributors operating during the year. A few complaints were received concerning alleged contamination, and these were referred to the Norfolk County Council, Food and Drugs Department for attention.

## Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

The total number of premises registered at the 31st December, 1968 was 238. No applications were received for exemptions under any heading of the Act or Regulations. Fortunately only one accident was reported and this was referred to Her Majesty's Factory Inspectorate. The following table gives information concerning the number and type of premises registered.

<u>Type</u>	<u>Registered During the Year</u>	<u>Total at End of Year</u>	<u>No. Receiving a General Inspection</u>
Offices	-	31	21
Retail Shops	1	158	136
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	-	-	1
Catering Establishments and canteens	-	-	29
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	1
Total	1	238	188

## Food and Drugs

A total of 294 premises are registered as required by Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, 13 for the preparation and manufacture of preserved food and 281 for the storage and sale of ice cream. 33 samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination. Of these 30 were certified as Grade 1. In the case of the remainder certified below Grade 1, informal action was taken, following which a Grade 1 sample was obtained in each case. The one ice cream factory continued to operate in a very satisfactory manner throughout the year. A small quantity of canned and other unfit food stuffs was dealt with. Suspected infringements of Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act were referred to the Food and Drugs Inspector, Norfolk County Council from whom as always, we received the utmost co-operation.

## Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

During the year it was necessary to take informal action in relation to a few of the premises falling to be dealt with under these Regulations. Generally, however the food premises within the district were maintained at a good standard.

It has been suggested by the Department of Health & Social Security that information concerning certain Clauses of the Regulations be given in this Report. Clause 16 relates to hand washing facilities, etc., and Clause 19 to facilities for washing food and equipment.

The position at the end of 1968 in relation to these matters is as given below.

Type of premises	No.	No. complying with Reg. 16.	No. to which Reg. 19 applies	No. complying with Reg. 19.
Bakers	4	4	4	4
Butchers	27	27	27	27
Cafes, hotels restaurants etc.	70	69	70	70
Confectioners	15	15	3	3
Grocers (inc. greengrocers)	154	154	146	145
Fish (wet, fried)	16	16	16	16
Licensed premises clubs	81	81	81	81
Food manufacture	4	4	4	4
Poultry processing	1	1	1	1
TOTAL	372	371	352	351

## Poultry Inspection

The single poultry processing establishment within the district, at Roodham, continued to operate in a satisfactory manner through the year. Inspection during processing has again been carried out by an experienced employee of the firm with occasional checks by the Council's Inspector. It is regretted that pressure of work in the department has not allowed a system of regular routine inspections to operate.

The following table relates to table poultry but the plant has processed in addition some 25,000 game birds during the year.

(1) Number of processing plants	1
(2) Total number of birds processed during the year	14,770
(3) Types of birds processed -	Turkeys, ducks, geese, hens, broilers, capons.
(4) Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for consumption	1.59%
(5) Weight of poultry condemned as unfit for consumption	17cwts. 3qrs. 19lbs.

SECTION 'D'

HOUSING

Council Houses

The following is a list of houses erected by the Council:-

Under the Housing Acts

Pre-War	899
Post-War	1,069
Others	16
Prefabs	<u>25</u>
	<u>2,009</u>

At the end of the year outstanding applications for Council house accommodation numbered 557.

There were 59 dwellings under construction at the end of the year, 24 being in Thorpe St. Andrew and 35 in Hemsby.

As a result of action under the Housing Act, Demolition Orders were made in respect of 50 properties, and Closing Orders in respect of 6.

During the year a number of properties have been repaired to a good standard as a result of informal action. This has been achieved principally, by consultation with owners when applying for an Improvement Grant.



SECTION 'E'

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART  
DURING 1968

	<u>Cattle</u> <u>Excluding</u> <u>Cows</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u> <u>and</u> <u>Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Horses</u>
Number killed (if known)	3,787	307	45	4,783	7,680	-
Number inspected	3,787	307	45	4,783	7,680	-
<u>All diseases except</u> <u>Tuberculosis and</u> <u>Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	5	-	13	11	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	720	90	3	141	608	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	19.01	30.94	6.66	3.21	8.06	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	2	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	165	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	2.1	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	6	1	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	6	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

INFECTIOUS DISEASESMeasles

267 cases of measles were notified during the year compared with 234 last year. Immunisation against this complaint became available during the early summer and there is no doubt that it is proving effective in reducing the incidence of the illness which in an unmodified form is frequently associated with severe complications, particularly those involving the ears and the chest.

Whooping Cough

One case was notified, compared with 36 last year. The complaint is now seldom a serious one and immunisation must be responsible for this improved situation.

The schedule of immunisation in our Child Health Clinics has now been altered to the following:-

Immunisation against whooping cough, diphtheria and tetanus (the triple injection) at 4 months, 6 months and 1 year. Poliomyelitis vaccine is given by mouth at the same time as these injections. The increased spacing of injections eliminates the need to give a boosting injection at 18 months to 2 years while retaining the same efficacy.

We carry out smallpox vaccination in the second year of life and measles vaccination after first birthday. "Booster" injections against diphtheria and tetanus with poliomyelitis immunisation by mouth are given at school entry and another tetanus injection on leaving school.

Pneumonia

Nine cases were notified compared with twelve last year.

Scarlet Fever

Eighteen cases were notified compared with 39 last year. Whilst scarlet fever itself is seldom a dangerous disease in this country, the germ which causes it is the haemolytic streptococcus and cannot be ignored, as both rheumatic fever and kidney disease can result from an infection which may be associated with a rash as in scarlet fever, but may merely cause a severe sore throat.

Erysipelas

Two cases were notified. The germ causing the complaint is the same as that causing scarlet fever and the remarks made apply to this condition also.

### Food Poisoning

There were four cases of this complaint notified during the year compared with one last year.

### Infective Jaundice

Six cases were notified compared with six last year and three the year before. This complaint can be a most debilitating one and largely because of the long incubation period of about a month, it is very difficult to trace the source of any particular case.

### Dysentery (Sonno)

There were no cases compared with four last year.

### Puerperal Pyrexia

Two cases were notified, the same number as 1967.

The Public Health (Infective Jaundice) Regulations, 1968, which came into force on 15th June, 1968, made infective jaundice generally notifiable.

The Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1968, which came into force on 1st October, made certain changes in the list of diseases to be notified.

Leptospirosis, previously notifiable only in certain areas, became notifiable throughout England and Wales.

Tetanus and Yellow Fever became notifiable for the first time.

Pneumonia, acute rheumatism, and puerperal pyrexia ceased to be notifiable diseases.



INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (EXCL. TB) DURING  
LAST FIVE YEARS

	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
Scarlet Fever	17	13	15	39	18
Measles	159	668	320	234	267
Whooping Cough	40	7	31	36	1
Pneumonia	20	8	16	12	9
Infective Jaundice	6	5	3	6	6
Erysipelas	4	3	-	-	2
Dysentery (Sonno)	2	15	25	4	-
Food Poisoning	13	5	3	1	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	1	2	2
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis (non-Paralytic)	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	2	-	2	-	-
TOTALS	265	725	416	334	309

B.C.G. VACCINATION

This was offered to all 13 year old school children. 76% parents gave their consent, 22% refused consent and 2% did not return forms.

The findings during the year were as follows:-

Total number eligible	-	635
number tested	-	419
number positive	-	29
Tuberculin Index	-	7%
number vaccinated	-	390

TUBERCULOSIS - NEW CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1968

	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Meninges &amp; C.N.S.</u>		<u>Other</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
Under 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 to 14 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 to 24 years	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
25 to 44 years	-	1	-	-	-	1	2
45 to 64 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 years and over	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	3	-	-	-	1	4

TUBERCULOSIS - NUMBER OF CASES ON REGISTER AT END OF 1968

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pulmonary	110	104	214
Non-Pulmonary	6	12	18
	116	116	232

DETAILS OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS FOR LAST FIVE YEARS  
(Excluding Inward Transfers from other Districts)

		<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
Pulmonary	M	4	1	8	2	-
	F	3	4	10	-	3
Non-Pulmonary	M	2	-	1	-	-
	F	1	3	1	-	1
		10	8	20	2	4

## Immunisation Schemes

The following tables show the work done by the General Practitioners and the Assistant County Medical Officer in 1968:-

<u>Type of vaccine</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>Year of Birth</u>		<u>1961 - 1964</u>	<u>Others under 16</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
			<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>			

Table 1 - Completed Primary Courses

Triple (DTP)	319	472	15	8	10	-	824
Diph/Tet.	-	1	1	3	5	-	10
Tetanus	-	3	1	-	-	12	16
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polio (Oral)	296	466	16	11	18	2	809

Table 2 - Reinforcing doses

Triple (DTP)	-	139	257	41	98	10	545
Diph/Tet.	-	4	29	14	624	274	945
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	7	12	19
Tetanus	-	2	11	4	24	131	172
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polio (Oral)	-	64	120	17	675	73	949

## SMALLPOX

<u>Age at date of vaccination</u>	<u>0-3 mths.</u>	<u>3-6 mths.</u>	<u>6-9 mths.</u>	<u>9-12 mths.</u>	<u>1yr.</u>	<u>2-4 yrs</u>	<u>5-15 yrs.</u>
Primary	3	3	40	68	319	134	24
Re-Vaccination					-	9	19

# FACTORIES ACT, 1961

## Part I of the Act

- (1) Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

	<u>Number on Register</u>	<u>Number of Inspections</u>	<u>Number of written notices</u>	<u>Number of Occupiers prosecuted</u>
(i) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	12	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in(i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities	96	69	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities	11	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

- (2) Cases in which DEFECTS were found

<u>Particulars</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>To H.M. Inspector</u>	<u>By H.M. Inspector</u>	<u>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</u>
Want of Cleanliness(S1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences(S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b)Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK - (SECTIONS 113 and 134)

<u>Nature of Work</u>	<u>Section 133</u>				<u>Section 134</u>	
	<u>No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 133</u>	<u>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</u>	<u>No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists</u>	<u>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises</u>	<u>Notices Served</u>	<u>Prosecutions</u>
Wearing - (Making etc. (Cleaning and Apparel Washing	28	-	-	-	-	-
Brush Making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cosaguos, Christmas Crackers, Christmas Stockings, etc.	3	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	31	-	-	-	-	-





